



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/892,018	06/25/2001	Hans O. Ribi	SEGA.004.01US	2628

7590 09/24/2002

Rae-Venter Law Group, P.C.  
P.O. Box 60039  
Palo Alto, CA 94306-0039

EXAMINER

BENNETT, RACHEL M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1615	5

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/892,018	<b>Applicant(s)</b> RIBI, HANS O.
	<b>Examiner</b> Rachel M. Bennett	<b>Art Unit</b> 1615
<i>-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</i>		
<b>Period for Reply</b>		
<p>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.</li> <li>- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.</li> <li>- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.</li> <li>- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).</li> <li>- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</li> </ul>		
<b>Status</b>		
<p>1)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>01 October 2001</u>.</p> <p>2a)<input type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL.                            2b)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.</p> <p>3)<input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.</p>		
<b>Disposition of Claims</b>		
<p>4)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-84</u> is/are pending in the application.</p> <p>4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.</p> <p>5)<input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.</p> <p>6)<input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.</p> <p>7)<input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.</p> <p>8)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-84</u> are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.</p>		
<b>Application Papers</b>		
<p>9)<input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.</p> <p>10)<input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)<input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b)<input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).</p> <p>11)<input type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)<input type="checkbox"/> approved b)<input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.</p> <p>12)<input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.</p>		
<b>Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120</b>		
<p>13)<input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</p> <p>a)<input type="checkbox"/> All    b)<input type="checkbox"/> Some * c)<input type="checkbox"/> None of:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">1.<input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.<input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">3.<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</p> <p>14)<input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a)<input type="checkbox"/> The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.</p> <p>15)<input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.</p>		
<b>Attachment(s)</b>		
<p>1)<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</p> <p>2)<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</p> <p>3)<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.</p> <p>4)<input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.</p> <p>5)<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</p> <p>6)<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.</p>		

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-26, 29-31, 33, 38-43, 79-84 drawn to an ingestible, classified in class 424, subclass 464.
  - II. Claim 27, drawn to N-ethanol-hexadeca-5,7-diyheamide, classified in class 424, subclass 9.6.
  - III. Claim 28, drawn to N-propylamine-eicosa-5,7-diyneamide, classified in class 424, subclass 49.
  - IV. Claims 32, 34-35, drawn to a food coating, classified in class 426, subclass 89.
  - V. Claims 36-37, drawn to a solid packing material, classified in class 428, subclass 35.
  - VI. Claims 44-67, 78, drawn to a method, classified in class 424, subclass 400.
  - VII. Claims 68-77, drawn to device, classified in class 374, subclass 162.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions of Group I, II, III, IV, V, VII and Group VI are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product can be used in a materially different process of using.

3. Inventions of Group I, II, III, IV, VI, VII and Group V are independent and distinct in that Groups I, II, III, IV, VI, VII do not require a packing material as required by Group V.
4. Invention of Group I, II, III, IV, V, VI and Group VII are independent and distinct in that Groups I, II, III, IV, V, VI do not require a device as required by Group VII.
5. Inventions of Group I, II, III, V, VI, VII and Group IV are independent and distinct in that Groups I, II, III, V, VI, VII do not require a food coating as in Group IV.
6. Inventions of Group I, II, IV, V, VII and Group III are independent and distinct in that Groups I, II, V, VI, VII do not require the chromic change agent to be N-propylanime-eicos-5,7-diyneamide as required by Group III.
7. Inventions of Group I, III, IV, V, VII and Group II are independent and distinct in that Groups I, III, V, VI, VII do not require the chromic change agent to be N-ethanol-hexadeca-5,7-diyneamide as required by Group II.
8. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
9. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Groups VI is not required for Group I, II, III or IV restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
10. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

11. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species in Group I:

- a) chromic change agent is a diacetylenic compound in claims 4, 15-25
- b) halogenated mono- or polydiacetylenic compound in claim 5
- c) diacetylenic compound comprised an end group in claim 26, 43
- d) chromic change agent is selected from the group of claims 79-84

Species in Group VI:

- a) method for effecting at least one color change in or on an ingestible in claims 44-50
- c) method for detecting exposure to absolute temperature in claims 51-54
- d) method for indicating a temperature of an ingestible in claim 55
- e) method for detecting exposure to moisture in claim 56
- f) method for detecting safe cooking level in claim 57
- g) method for indicating elevated body temperature in claim 58
- h) method for protecting food in claims 60-61
- i) method for applying a pattern claim 62
- j) method for manufacturing an ingestible comprising a diacetylenic in claims 63-67
- k) method for written or graphical communication in claim 78

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claim is generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

*Correspondence*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachel M. Bennett whose telephone number is (703) 308-8779. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M..



If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on (703) 308-2927. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3592 for regular communications and (703) 309-7924 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1234.

R. Bennett  
September 23, 2002

THURMAN K. PAGE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600  
